

UTM's award-winning college newspaper  
**the pacer**  
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The Independent voice of the University of Tennessee at Martin

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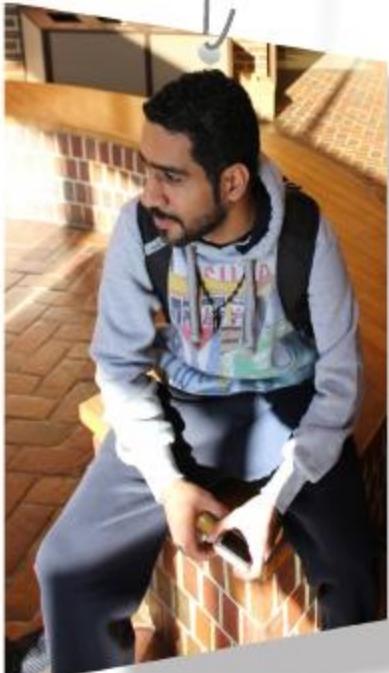
# Is Peace on Earth possible?



"Yes, it sure is."



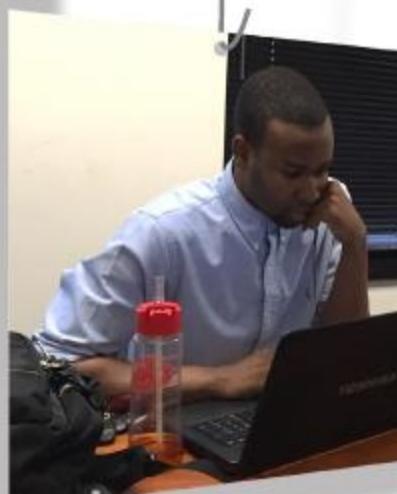
"Eventually, maybe."



"I don't know if it's possible."



"Yes, if knowledge is possible."



"Yes, it is possible through understanding."



"I believe it's possible, but we must empathize with, uplift, and love one another. We are all in pursuit of happiness, so there's no reason why we can't come together and set aside differences for the sake of peace."

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Next issue Jan. 14, 2016

# Viewpoints

## EDITORIAL

### Happy holidays and may the curve be ever in your favor

As finals week approaches, we at The Pacer would like to wish everyone good luck during finals week and a happy winter break.

Keep an eye out for several events on campus. We're now finishing up the last week of classes, and that means only one thing: finals week. During this week, check The Hub online or the UTM Portal site for any updates including dates for events such as the semi-annual Midnight Breakfast in the Skyhawk Dining Hall and the League of Striving Artists' annual Holiday Art Bazaar held in the Fine Arts Gallery today through Saturday. On that note, eat all of the pancakes, drink all of the coffee and brace yourself for endless nights of studying.

Congratulations to all of the graduating seniors who made



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it through their four (or more) years to earn that marvelous bachelor's degree. You've put in so much dedication and hard work into your college career, so you've earned it! Enjoy your

time applying for your dream career and succeed in all things that you put your mind to.

Take time during your winter break to spend quality time with family and friends and spread

the Christmas cheer. Midst all that has happened in this past year, fellowship with loved ones will certainly bring a feeling of warmth and love to the crazy atmosphere.

There are only 28 days left in 2015. This year was the year of equality, social movements, terror, and innovation. With these remaining days, it's a time to reminisce and remember back on what shaped this year. We can always be the light in the world and work to bring humanity closer together. It's a time to wonder what we can change to make a better and brighter 2016.

To everyone, may the curve be ever in your favor and enjoy your winter break. We'll see all of you returning students on Jan. 14!

## COLUMNS

### 'Give Peace a Chance'

#### Chance Farmer

Co-Executive Editor

On Dec. 8, 1980, Mark David Chapman deprived the world of the life of one of the greatest, most influential musical talents of our time, John Lennon.

Lennon had just completed a photo shoot with Annie Leibovitz for Rolling Stone magazine and what would be his last interview for a San Francisco radio show. Right after leaving his New York City apartment for the studio to mix the song "Walking on Thin Ice" with his wife, Yoko Ono, Lennon suffered four fatal gunshot wounds

**You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one. I hope someday you will join us and the world will be as one.**

Lyrics from "Imagine"

and was pronounced dead on arrival at Roosevelt Hospital. News of Lennon's death sent shock waves around the globe, and the world went

into mourning for this man who influenced and touched so many lives.

Here we are, 35 years later, and many still cite John Lennon as their inspiration, not just in the music industry, but also those who follow his philosophy and way of life. Lennon was a very outspoken pacifist, protesting the Vietnam War in the late 1960s and early '70s, and this was reflected heavily in his music.

"You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one. I hope someday you will join us and the world will be as one."

- "Imagine," by John Lennon

Today, the world is much

the same as it was during Lennon's lifetime. There is still war, poverty and inequality. It's very rare that you can turn on the news without seeing something about terrorist attacks, both foreign and domestic, or civil unrest. The world is still a very scary place.

With all the terrible things that happen from day to day, can we actually give peace a chance?

With all the hate in the world, is it possible to show true compassion for the rest of humanity? Can we look beyond our differences to come together as one people? It should not have to take tragedy to unify the world.

### How to achieve the ultimate nap

#### Ashton Priest

Viewpoints Editor

As finals week approaches, students will be indulging in the activity of napping. Some naps refresh, while others leave people grumpy. Is there really a way to have the perfect nap? Fortunately, thanks to the Art of Well Being website, there are seven steps to having one!

First, keep in mind that different lengths determine what the naps do. Six minute naps enhance memory. Taking a 10 to 15 minute nap improves focus and productivity, while 20 to 30 minute naps create peak performance and alertness while sharpening motor skills. Taking 40 to 60 minute naps can boost brain power, stimulates creativity and improves memory and learning abilities. Lastly, 90 to 120 minute naps boost creativity, emotional and procedural memory.

If you want to nap, do it between 1 and 3 p.m. It is

because of our circadian rhythm that we are the sleepiest during this time.

For the right environment, keep the temperature comfortable and keep the area as quiet and dark as possible. Research shows that 50 percent of people fall asleep faster while laying down versus being seated, and because of the swaying motion, hammocks are the best napping place.

Taking a 20 to 30 minute nap? Drink a cup of coffee right before. By the time the nap is over, you'll be energized because of the caffeine.

Don't expect to be bright-eyed and bushy-tailed if you wake up during a forty to sixty minute nap. By this time, you have entered deep sleep, and waking up at this time will leave your sleep cycle incomplete, thus leaving you with an unpleasant groggy feeling. To get over this, combine caffeine intake, bright light exposure and face



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washing. Afterwards, go back to bed and sleep 90 minutes to get the full cycle done.

Remember that naps do not substitute for a good night's sleep. Not getting enough sleep can result in high blood pressure, weight gain, depression and even type 2 diabetes. Be sure to have a regular schedule for going to bed and waking up. Also, only use the bed for sleep and sex.

Last but not least, have

a healthy diet. Sugar and processed foods can rob you of amazing nap time, so proper nutrition and two liters of water a day can keep your naps on point.

With these steps underway, napping has benefits. Naps boost a memory process responsible for creativity, lower blood pressure and even help relax and decrease stress. On that note, I think it's safe to say, "Sleep away, UTM!"

## the

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# Viewpoints

## COLUMNS

# The Christmas season in today's eyes

**Ashton Priest**

Viewpoints Editor

The holiday season has always held a sense of peace and love. We visit family, celebrate with friends and bond with strangers for the purpose of spreading the Christmas cheer. With that said, has the meaning of Christmas changed for the majority of today's college students?

We are constantly on-the-go. We have school, jobs, extra-curriculars and so much more that we often forget to step back and evaluate life as it is. We're so concerned about being the best and most well-off instead of focusing on being



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the happiest. Granted, today you have to be well-off in order to survive comfortably. We need and want it, but it

seems that it doesn't appear unless you drain your sanity.

This past year has also been filled with many instances of tragedy and sorrow in the forms of terror and shootings. The world seems to be at a standstill with no where to go. But in these trying times, people around the globe have found the way of healing together and standing up for the world as one.

With all of this happening, the meaning of Christmas still stands. Though life is busy and we're all somewhat consumed by it, we still find time to spread this cheer around. It doesn't matter if that promotion didn't go through, because the warmth of family still encompasses. It

doesn't matter if the world is stricken with negativity, the globe is filled with positive influences that could change the world for the better. It doesn't matter if by finals week you've lost all hope, there is always a seed of hope that the best can and will happen.

The meaning of Christmas might seem to have changed, but it will always have the staple of bringing hope, peace and love to everyone no matter the faith, race or any other factor. It's the only thing keeping us together and somewhat sane. Enjoy the season and never let anything come between you and happiness.

# Surviving and conquering finals week

**Ashton Priest**

Viewpoints Editor

Finals week is just around the corner, and if you're like me, the feeling of procrastination and dread is washing over you at this very moment. The Word document is blank, the book is still open on the first page and you're sitting at the desk wondering where to even start. Luckily, there are ways to

survive this week that will end in success.

The first thing people do is usually procrastinate. They either do it to build enough stress to motivate them or they just don't feel up to it. Just don't. Don't let the idea slip into your mind. Instead, start with finals assignments and projects. The sooner the deadline, the higher the priority. After all is finished, start studying for the exams whether it's just refreshing

information or trying to understand certain subjects.

Students also feel the need to pull all-nighter dates with Starbucks. While one won't kill you, pulling one multiple times can drain you and actually hinder your information intake as well as other health problems. Continuous caffeine can also affect sleep and the brain. I'm a huge believer in sleep, so sleeping the recommended

eight hours (without coffee right before) each night will help refresh and rejuvenate your brain for the next day of studying.

Along the lines of all-nighters and sleep, be sure to take breaks every once and a while. Breaks could either be a having a small snack, watching an episode of your favorite show, or even taking a night off by getting out on the town with friends. "Treat yo self"

when necessary.

Lastly, don't skip classes just to study. Studying is important, but going to class where the professor may give out a study guide or go over difficult topics, especially during the last week of classes, is way more beneficial.

Finals week is basically the bane of everyone's existence, but with these helpful tips, finals could possibly be tolerable for once.

## Find perfect gifts for the struggling college student

**Ashton Priest**

Viewpoints Editor

As Christmas draws nigh, the pressure to buy presents becomes overwhelming. What do even get a college student for Christmas? Money? Food? Socks? All of the above? Actually, it's a lot easier than what most people think, so here are a few ideas of gifts to give to students and peers.

Cash is probably the easiest thing to give to a student. It allows them to utilize it for whatever needs they have, such as groceries or a new laptop. It could go towards almost anything.

Gift cards are also really easy. Again, they could choose a specific restaurant, store, or grocery store to use the card at depending on what they need the most.

Another great gift idea is a subscription to video streaming sites like Netflix, Hulu, etc. The idea of relaxing and watching The Walking Dead sounds so good to any college student.

Speaking of waffles, non-perishable foods and drinks are also good for students living in the dorms or on their own.

Though children loathe this idea, students rejoice at the idea of getting socks and other undergarments (or at least I do). Undergarments are actually pretty expensive when it comes to quality, so these would definitely be appreciated.

School supplies and technology go hand-in-hand. Pencils and notebooks are a great start and are definitely needed. The gift of a Kindle, iPad or any other tablet can be the gateway to entertainment and also education. Noise-cancelling headphones for studying in loud places, Chromecast for broadcasting TV and USB rechargeable batteries for on-the-go are other great gifts for the college students.

Bookworms actually still exist in this era, so why not give them a book about doing adult activities like financing or cooking? I guess Harry Potter would work too.

There are many other gifts like dorm decor or entertainment to choose from, but all of these still benefit college students in the long-run. Whether you're a parent, friend or also a college student, remember that it is really the thought that counts.

## Study tips to help you make the grade

**Ashton Priest**

Viewpoints Editor

You stare blankly at the finals study guide wondering where to start.

There are many ways to go about studying the material, but how could it be easier when there is more classes to study for? Luckily, there are several ways to go about smart studying especially during finals week.

Start with the essential study tools. These include flashcards, highlighters, the actual notes, etc. When studying definitions, equations and other straight-to-the-point questions, flashcards are great. Highlighters help identify the important information in notes and can also help organize the material.

If you're more of a tech user, the Internet is full of awesome sites for studying. Quizlet is a great substitute for flashcards, GoConqr helps visual learners, and many other sites like Evernote help in the same way.

Easily distracted while on your own? Create or join



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often help keep the focus of the subject at hand and offer different insights that might prove to be helpful. They are also great at keeping company.

Need an extra boost? Coffee, tea, and energy drinks are a student's best friends. While it seems like a smart idea to drink all the caffeine and consume all the sugar, only a few drinks will suffice.

Also, studying all the time or pulling multiple all-nighters aren't really the best method ever. Be sure to take breaks. Take time to sleep, eat and basically take care of yourself.

A little time away from studying is as beneficial to your sanity as studying is to your grade.

Lastly, realize where your strengths and weaknesses are. You may be acing psychology but also flunking calculus. Of course, refreshing the information is beneficial, but focus on trying to master the weak points of your classes.

With these tips in mind, acing the exams should come to be an easy challenge.

# Viewpoints

## SENIOR FAREWELLS

### Skylar Freeman

It seems as though it was yesterday when I started my freshman year of college. Here I am, four years later, graduating. I didn't know what to expect from the college experience.

I remember Mean Girls being one of my favorite movies but once I got to high-school, it was NOTHING like the movie. Not even the cafeteria setting of how jocks sat at one table, nerds sat at another and so on. I came to UTM in 2011 as a Psychology major, hoping to become a Sports Psychologist. But after the death of my father three months later something just wasn't right. I was homesick, mainly food-sick. I missed home cooked meals and Popeye's.

But after talking to Ms. Tomi Parrish who is an Instructor of Communications and the Advising Faculty of The Pacer, I later found myself in Academic Records submitting a change of major form. Some people think that being a Communications major is all about talking; which I can do very well. I was also included in that "some people," but this department has offered me so much more.

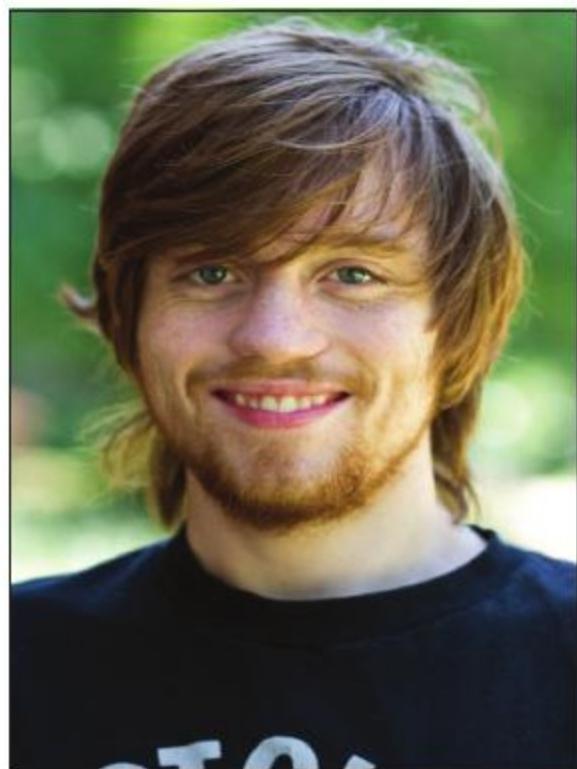
I want to thank Ms. Tomi Parrish for helping me find my true aspiration in life and allowing me to be a part



of The Spirit and The Pacer staff, Dr. Teresa Collard for helping me with my public speaking and instilling in my fellow classmates and I not to text and drive, Dr. Tracy Rutledge for allowing me to express myself through design and layout, Mr. Rodney Freed and Mrs. Stacey Freed for staying on top of me and challenging me to do my best, Dr. Jeff Hoyer who was always willing to go the extra

mile to help me, even though I was not a Public Relations sequence and last but not least, Dr. Robert Nanney who has done all of what I stated above, plus more.

I am grateful for the Communications Department as a whole, and wherever my journey takes me next, I'll be sure to incorporate every aspect that I have learned throughout these four years.



### Matthew Cullen

About four years ago, I had no friends, no plans for anything past tomorrow and a whole lot of time to do nothing. I was home schooled from first grade through high school, so I never got around to socializing much except for on the Internet.

I originally had no plans to go to college. I figured that I could get a job in my career field (web design) without a degree, just the skills and experience. That all changed seemingly overnight the summer before I would attend my first semester of college. I quickly took the ACT and applied to UTM, and was accepted soon after.

Attending UTM has been an amazing experience for many reasons. First, I made a lot of friends and learned how to interact with other human beings, but I also learned more than I could have imagined about many different topics. If it weren't for required classes, I wouldn't know all the cool things I know about subjects like geology and history.

I have learned from many incredible people, and I

wouldn't have had this chance if I didn't attend UTM. I can't name drop them all here for lack of space, but I have learned pretty much everything I know about design, newspapers and mass communication from the amazing teachers in the Communications department. I wouldn't know half of what I know if it weren't for all the great teachers and professors.

UTM has also been a great place when it comes to opportunities. Students have access to computer labs with software that is expensive or impractical to own personally. And there are actual physical laboratories as well. I have been on field trips to cool places that I would never have a chance to go to normally. I have been to another country for about half the price it would cost non-students. I met my wife here.

My point is, take my advice and don't waste these opportunities. Do this stuff and learn from these people while you can. This kind of learning environment is unique to college, and you won't get these chances after you graduate.



### Amber Sherman

When attending a college, you never know the impact you make on people in their daily lives.

I am so grateful for the experiences I've had in the last three years that I've been here. Choosing to attend UTM was one of the best decisions that I made. Being able to capture the moments of the students on my campus at every event, whether it be sports or Greek life-related, was a privilege indeed. Having students come up to me and ask about the pictures I

had taken really warmed my heart.

Throughout my time at UTM, I've participated in a rally in Nashville for InsureTn and, most recently, a rally in support of campus workers against privatization. Representing students as a voice on this campus was a choice I made because it's something that needed to happen. For far too long, we have complained about it and ranted on social media, but no one acts. My hope once I graduate is that voices on our campus will

continue to be heard, others will step up to the plate and students will realize how much their voice matters to the university. You pay the tuition, therefore, your thoughts matter.

I've had many successes at UTM such as being UTM Democrats President, winning third place in the Pi Sigma Epsilon National Speakers competition and, most recently, meeting President Barack Obama. The University of Tennessee at Martin has been good to me.

*We offer our thanks and wish the best to all of our graduating seniors - Matt Bodkins; Matt Cullen and his wife, Philicity Gatlin Cullen; Skylar Freeman; and Amber Sherman. May you all find the success you deserve.*

*~ The Pacer Staff*

# News

## Increase in campus threats gives students cause for concern

**Justin Glover**

News Editor

News of the cancellation of classes and the shutdown of the campus at the University of Chicago on Monday marks only the most recent chapter in the ever-growing story of threats of violence on college campuses.

In November alone, more than a dozen college campuses experienced threats of some form of violence, Inside Higher Ed reports.

One of the more notable threats involved a series of anonymous posts on social media outlet Yik Yak threatening violence on the campus of the University of Missouri toward students of color following the resignation of the university's president.

"I'm going to stand my ground tomorrow and shoot every black person I see," one of the posts said.

These threats have done much to heighten overall paranoia among college students following the rash of campus



The University of Chicago in Chicago, Illinois. | Photo Credit/Associated Press

violence in recent months. In October, Umpqua Community College in Oregon witnessed a shooting that resulted in nine deaths and seven injuries, while another incident at Tennessee State University resulted in one student dead and two more injured.

In September, a professor at Delta State University was

killed in his office by a fellow instructor.

William Taylor, president of the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators and chief of police at San Jacinto College, said in an interview with Inside Higher Ed that while threats against campuses are nothing new, the rate at which

these threats are appearing is alarmingly high.

"There is greater number of these than I've seen before," Taylor said. "There is an upswing with these types of threats being made this semester, especially with the tragedy in Oregon. It's almost as if this whole semester has been building and building."

Many colleges have resorted

to canceling classes and shutting down campus operations when faced with threats of such magnitude, as evidenced by the University of Chicago's response to its recent threat.

In many incidents, the social media posts warning of potential violence against students and campuses are vague enough that there is no viable way to preempt any potential attacks.

In addition, the use of social media platforms such as Yik Yak, which guarantees complete anonymity to its users, compounds the problem, as law enforcement officials are unable to identify suspects before an incident occurs. While an arrest was made in the case of the University of Chicago threat, several other universities have been unable to preemptively identify possible attackers, leading to the common decision to shut down campuses.

"Any threat has to be taken seriously on its face, and so most institutions are erring on the side of caution," Taylor said.

## Governor discusses Drive to 55 campaign

**Jared Peckenpaugh**

Sports Editor

It has been two years now since Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam announced his "Drive to 55" campaign.

The stated goal of the campaign is to have 55 percent of Tennesseans possess a post-secondary degree or certificate by 2025.

The reason for the selection of this benchmark was announced at a press conference this week. Haslam said in the press conference that in 10 years, 55 percent of jobs in Tennessee will require secondary education. Currently, only 33 percent of Tennesseans qualify.

"Since the launch of the Drive to 55 we have made tremendous progress, becoming No. 1 in the nation for federal student aid completion and increasing the size of our freshman class by 10 percent in one year," Haslam said. "Tennessee is at the forefront of innovation in public higher education, and the conversation has brought us to this point — making sure Tennessee colleges and universities are organized, supported and empowered to meet the demands of Drive to 55."

According to the campaign website, only 25 percent of Weakley County residents hold a post-secondary degree or certificate, such as an associate's degree, bachelor's degree, or a graduate or professional degree. As of this writing, 55 percent of jobs in Weakley County require a post-secondary degree.

The Drive to 55 campaign

also involved the Tennessee Promise and Reconnect programs, which were implemented to make the first two years of community college free for graduating high school seniors. Thus far, the program has created a 24.7 percent increase in first-time freshman enrollment at Tennessee community colleges, as well as a 20 percent increase at Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology for the 2015-16 school year.

Now that the Drive to 55 is working toward year No. 3, Haslam announced this week that it is time to take the next step.

He is calling for a sharpened focus on the state's community and technical colleges. There will also be local boards set up at the state's Board of Regents universities, including Austin Peay State, East Tennessee State, Middle Tennessee State, Tennessee State, Tennessee Tech and the University of Memphis.

Haslam also announced that he is working on legislation to bring to the next session called the "Focus On College and University Success Act" (FOCUS).

"Tennessee's future in economic development will depend on us having a workforce that is ready for high skill, high wage jobs, and as part of that effort we have to make sure our colleges and universities are strategically aligned in supporting student success," Haslam said. "The FOCUS Act will put us on that path."

## Auto union to vote on representing Volkswagen employees in Tennessee

**Associated Press**

Nearly 20 months after narrowly losing a union election at Volkswagen's lone U.S. plant in Tennessee, the United Auto Workers are up for another vote affecting a much smaller number of employees.

The two-day vote scheduled to begin Thursday at the German automaker's Chattanooga factory is about whether a unit of 165 skilled-trades workers want to have the UAW negotiate collective bargaining agreements on their behalf.

Volkswagen isn't happy about the union seeking to represent the smaller group of workers, but the election is expected to proceed even as the company pursues an appeal to the National Labor Relations Board.

A UAW success at the plant would break a long losing streak among foreign-owned automakers in the South. That's a prospect welcomed by labor supporters and dreaded by anti-union politicians in the region.

Volkswagen has been reeling since the company admitted that 482,000 diesel vehicles in the U.S. contained software to cheat pollution measurements on government tests.

Those revelations led Volkswagen's CEO to resign and the company to announce cost-cutting measures to cope with the crisis.

Volkswagen has publicly reaffirmed its plans to build a new SUV at the plant next year, and the U.S. will remain a key market. But November

sales were down almost 25 percent from a year ago, and Chattanooga-made Passats plummeted by 60 percent despite the release of an updated version of the midsized sedan.

Republican Gov. Bill Haslam has chided the union for petitioning for another vote amid all the turmoil facing the company. The UAW responded that it can play a key role in Volkswagen's resurgence.

The strong labor influence at Volkswagen in Germany has long been a source of irritation for Tennessee Republicans keen on keeping the union out of the Chattanooga plant. But in this election, Volkswagen is leading the charge against the unionization effort.

Unlike in the runoff to the 2014 vote, the union and the company have not signed a pre-election agreement.

Volkswagen argues that allowing the small group of machinists and electricians to form their own bargaining unit runs contrary to the company's hopes of creating a German-style works council to represent both hourly and salaried employees at the plant.

Especially galling to the UAW has been Volkswagen's decision to hire a law firm that touts its specialization in "strategies for lawful union avoidance." The union says that move is at odds with Volkswagen's core principles of co-determination between workers and management.

Volkswagen insists that the only proper bargaining unit at the plant would include all 1,408 hourly employees

working one factory floor, regardless of whether they work in production or maintenance.

The regional director of the National Labor Relations Board ruled that the maintenance workers, who make up about 12 percent of the hourly workforce, "share a community of interest" over a variety of job-specific issues such as skills and training requirements, wages, hours and uniforms.

The decision relied on previous NLRB rulings in favor of "micro units" comprising certified nursing assistants at an Alabama rehabilitation center and fragrance and cosmetics sales staff at a Macy's department store in Massachusetts. In both of those cases the federal panel rejected the employer's insistence on "wall-to-wall" labor votes.

The union is expressing confidence that it has the numbers to prevail in this week's vote and the legal precedents to turn back the company's challenge to the National Labor Relations Board's decision. But the UAW won't be happy until it has gained exclusive bargaining rights for all hourly workers at the plant.

"We had to move the needle somehow," said Gary Casteel, the UAW's secretary-treasurer. "So this is just a first step in that direction."

Other foreign automakers that have kept the UAW at bay — Mercedes-Benz in Alabama, BMW in South Carolina and Nissan in Tennessee and Mississippi — will be keeping close watch.

# News



## Statewide News Briefs

**Associated Press**

### Christmas trees to be delivered to Fort Campbell, Fort Knox soldiers this week

Soldiers at Fort Campbell and Fort Knox and their families will be given hundreds of Christmas trees this week.

At Fort Campbell, FedEx Freight will deliver 400 trees that can be picked up from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST Saturday at Building 3961 55th Street, the temporary location of the Dale Wayrynen Community Recreation Center.

At Fort Knox, about 400 trees will be available after the post's tree lighting ceremony at 5:30 p.m. EST Thursday. The trees will be distributed at the Waybur Theater parking lot adjacent to the post gazebo until 8 p.m. Thursday and from 9 a.m. to noon Friday.

FedEx, the Christmas SPIRIT Foundation and tree farmers participate. FedEx expects to deliver more than 18,000 trees to more than 65 military installations this year.

### Metro Nashville bans gun shows at fairgrounds pending stricter measures

Metro Nashville officials have decided to stop allowing gun shows at the city's fairgrounds until those who operate the events adopt stricter measures.

According to media reports, the Board of Fair Commissioners voted 3-0 to stop allowing the shows after this weekend.

Before voting, commissioners cited three recent criminal cases in which guns purchased at the fairgrounds were linked to felons.

Fair board chairman Ned Horton said commissioners are responsible for actions at the facility and given the recent cases, there needs to be more controls in place.

David Goodman, who operates about 36 gun shows at the fairgrounds annually, said he has followed all laws governing gun sales and shouldn't be punished for the actions of criminals. He said he plans to appeal the decision.

### Attorney General: Nashville DA will not face criminal charges in insurance case

Nashville District Attorney Glenn Funk will not face criminal prosecution for accepting a controversial part-time job that allowed him to get a good deal on the state's pension plan and health insurance for him and his family.

Tennessee Attorney General Herbert Slatery told local media Tuesday that Funk broke the law but won't be prosecuted since he has agreed to pay back the benefits he received.

Investigators say Funk violated the law by working as a part-time attorney for the Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference from June to August 2014, before he took office. Slatery says Funk received state benefits for doing "virtually no work."

Funk says he was acting on the advice of others and didn't know that taking the job was illegal.

### Bush first candidate listed on approved delegate list in Tennessee GOP primary

Jeb Bush is the first of 17 candidates appearing on Tennessee presidential primary ballots to submit an approved list of delegates.

Secretary of State Tre Hargett on Tuesday released the final list of 14 Republican and 3 Democratic candidates who will appear on the March 1 ballot.

The deadline for delegates to qualify to represent candidates at the convention is Dec. 10.

Bush's slate includes former U.S. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, state Economic and Community Development Commissioner Bill Hagerty and his successor, Randy Boyd.

The Republicans on the ballot are Bush, Ben Carson, Chris Christie, Ted Cruz, Carly Fiorina, Jim Gilmore, Lindsey Graham, Mike Huckabee, John Kasich, George Pataki, Rand Paul, Marco Rubio, Rick Santorum and Donald Trump.

The Democrats are Hillary Clinton, Martin O'Malley and Bernie Sanders.

## UTM delegation shows off at 46th TISL General Assembly

### University Relations

Twenty-four students from UTM traveled to the 46th general assembly of the Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature on Nov. 12-15 with a reputation to defend.

They returned to campus with a record-breaking number of awards and three new state offices, including the 2016 TISL governor's seat.

The TISL delegation meets year-round to prepare for the annual assembly, held at the Tennessee State Capitol Building in Nashville. There are two parts to each meeting: the general assembly, a four-day mock legislature during which students serve as legislatures, lobbyists and members of the media; and the Appellate Moot Court Collegiate Challenge.

The 2015 UTM student delegation was recognized as the Best Overall Delegation for the first time in TISL history, and also received the Best House Delegation Award. UTM students also hold three of the nine state offices for the second year in a row, making this the fifth consecutive year UTM has held at least one seat on the state executive council.

John Domanski, a senior political science major from Dickson, was elected to serve as the 2016 TISL governor. He is the second UTM student in two years and only the third UTM student ever to fill this position. The first was Roy Herron (D-Tenn.), who won the seat in 1974 and spent a total of 26 years in state office. Domanski was named an outstanding state senator at the 2014 general assembly and has served as a UTM senator for the past four years, been speaker pro tem of the senate twice and spent one year as chairman of the Supreme Court Nominating Commission.

Marabeth Kennedy, a junior political science major from Franklin, was elected secretary



Marabeth Kennedy (left), John Domanski (center) and Jordan Long were each elected to TISL offices on Nov. 12-15. | Photo Credit/University Relations

of state and Jordan Long, a freshman political science major from Martin, will serve as speaker pro tem of the senate. Three of the past four secretaries of state and speaker pro tems have been from UTM.

Toshya Leonard, a senior communications major from Jonesboro, Ark., won the Best Print Media Award; and Katelin Brown, a junior political science major from Dresden, led the Best Lobbying Firm, which included Tanner Bell, a sophomore accounting major from Martin, as lobbyist. Logan Rangel, a freshman engineering major from Wartrace, was also named the best lobbyist of his firm, as chosen by the collective lobbying associations.

Justin Morgan, a senior political science major from Cookeville, and Ryan Leatherbarrow, a junior management major from Smyrna, were both inducted into the TISL Bar Association. Breydon Horton, a freshman communications major from Camden, received a coveted Carlisle Award, TISL's

oldest and most prestigious award named in honor of TISL's founder, Dr. Douglas Carlisle. Ten senators and representatives receive this award each year as chosen by the organization's executive council.

Elizabeth Sanders, of Smithville, completed her term as 2014-15 secretary of state and is now a graduate student in the UTM Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. Rachel Washburn, a junior political science major from Summertown, also completed her term as 2014-15 chief justice after serving as an associate justice the year before.

The UTM TISL delegation is co-advised by Dr. Chris Baxter, professor of political science, and Dr. Anderson Starling, assistant professor of political science.

For more information on TISL or how to become part of next year's delegation, contact Baxter at 731-881-7367 or by email at cbaxter@utm.edu, or Starling at 731-881-7305 or by email at astarlin@utm.edu.

## Proposed disabilities program includes jobs

### Associated Press

Gov. Bill Haslam said Tuesday that a program to help people with intellectual disabilities find jobs makes sense, but he wants to learn more about it before investing \$19 million.

The Republican governor heard from state health officials during a week of budget hearings at the state Capitol. He's scheduled to hear from 26 state agencies as he crafts his annual spending proposal that will likely top \$34 billion.

State health officials on Tuesday told Haslam that the job service would target people receiving home- and

community-based services through TennCare, the state's version of Medicaid, and that it's part of a unique program where "employment and independent living is the first and preferred option" in assisting Tennesseans with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Haslam told reporters following the hearing that he favors the program but wants to dig down further and understand how it will work.

"Obviously, \$19 million is a big chunk of new money," he said. "The program does make sense to me."

TennCare Director Darin Gordon said the program moves away from a "one-size-fits-all"

approach to one that more appropriately meets the needs of individuals who are seeking services.

Currently, about 8,000 people receive home- and community-based services, according to TennCare spokeswoman Kelly Gunderson. She said the program would also benefit hundreds of people on a waiting list to receive those services, as well as developmentally disabled individuals.

A majority of people with disabilities want to work, but less than 15 percent are employed in a job in the community, earning at least minimum wage, according to TennCare officials.

# News

## Shelby County district attorney to speak at commencement

### University Relations

Amy Weirich, Shelby County district attorney, will address the fall 2015 graduating class at UTM during commencement exercises Dec. 12 in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

Weirich, a Germantown native, earned her bachelor's degree from UTM in 1987 and went on to complete a law degree from the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at the University of Memphis.

She joined the district attorney's office in 1991 as a courtroom prosecutor and handled many high-profile criminal cases.

Weirich was also chief prosecutor of the Gang and Narcotics Prosecution Unit and division leader for the Special Prosecution Unit in criminal court.

Gov. Bill Haslam appointed Weirich as Shelby County district attorney in January 2011, after which she was officially elected in August 2012 to complete the final two years of her predecessor's term.

She was re-elected to a full eight-year term in



**Amy Weirich**

August 2014 and is the first woman to hold the district attorney position in Shelby County.

She helped create the Multi-Agency Gang Unit, which is the first federal, state and local law enforcement organization designed to curb gang activity.

Her office also sponsors the annual "Do the Write Thing" anti-violence essay contest for students, runs the Truancy Reduction Mentoring Program and created Lives Worth Saving, a prostitution-diversion program with Calvary Episcopal Church and other nonprofit organizations.

Weirich serves on a variety of boards and commissions, and her office has been listed among the top-50 workplaces in Shelby County by the *Commercial Appeal*.

The entire commencement program, including Weirich's address, can be seen via a live webcast starting at 11 a.m. at [www.utm.edu](http://www.utm.edu).

For more information, contact the UTM Office of University Relations at 731-881-7615.

## Need a break during finals? Lots of activities planned

### Mariah Whitney

Guest Writer

Finals week often is the most stressful week of the semester, but for those who would like to take a break from studying, plenty of activities are available from the last day of classes this week through graduation next Saturday.

At 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, the Alpha Psi Omega theatre honor society Improv Alliance Group will sponsor an Improv Show in the Vanguard Little Theatre of the Fine Arts Building. The show is free and open to the public.

The League of Striving Artists is hosting a Holiday Art Bazaar to sell students' artwork. The bazaar is open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, in the Fine Arts Building Art Gallery.

Also on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 3-5 p.m., a free concert titled "Tuba Christmas" will be performed in the Fine Arts Fulton Theatre. And for sports fans, the Skyhawk women's basketball team squares off on Saturday against Samford University. For more information on the game, go to [www.utmsports.com](http://www.utmsports.com).

Want food? UTM Dining Services will offer its annual Christmas Sunday Brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6. The menu will feature apricot glazed pit ham, candy cane pizza, Christmas-themed

desserts and other brunch items. The cost is \$11.22 for adults and \$5.31 for children.

Later that Sunday afternoon, celebrate the season with the "Holiday at UTM" concert from 3-5 in the Fine Arts Fulton Theatre.

On Monday, Dec. 7, relieve the stress of finals at the Student Health and Counseling Services' Chill Out Zone from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in 229UC. The event will feature popcorn, bingo, stress balls and Plinko.

At 7 Monday night, step out to University Street to watch the annual Martin Kiwanis Christmas parade: "Home for Christmas." The parade will feature floats from local businesses and organizations, with the route beginning in the UTM stadium parking lot and continuing through downtown Martin.

On Tuesday, Dec. 8, the Fall Choral Concert will be held from 7:30-9 in Fine Arts Blankenship.

Right after the concert, the semi-annual Moonlight Breakfast sponsored by UTM Dining Services runs from 9:30-11 Tuesday night. Faculty and staff volunteers are needed to serve the students. If interested in volunteering, email [custserv@utm.edu](mailto:custserv@utm.edu) or [jesse.kowaleski@sodexo.com](mailto:jesse.kowaleski@sodexo.com).

If all else fails to relieve the workload and stress of final exams, just get together with your friends for some hot chocolate and holiday movies.

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# Features

## UTM UNLIMITED

### Husband and wife make a difference at UTM

**Chance Farmer**

Co-Executive Editor

Dr. Doug Owens, newly tenured associate professor of Music, teaches applied lessons for saxophone and double reed instruments such as oboe and bassoon. He also teaches courses in music theory, aural skills, history of popular music and "wherever needed" within the Department of Music.

Owens was raised in Fountain Inn, South Carolina, a small town just south of Greenville. He attended Furman University, where he received his bachelor's degree, then went on to get his master's degree at the University of South Carolina and his doctorate at the University of Georgia.

"I have always been every bit as equally interested in the sound of music as any other aspect of music itself," Owens says. "As I got older and more involved with playing in band, I started taking lessons with a gentleman who taught at Furman, and I found out that he was a multiple instrumentalist. When I found out all of the music he was able to create, not just on one instrument, but many instruments in his particular case, I was absolutely intrigued."

Katie Smith, Owens' wife, is coordinator of Student Organizations at UTM. Smith oversees registered student organizations at UTM, keeping administrative records, making sure those records are updated, providing support to students who have questions about the organizations and also oversees Orgsync at UTM.

"I genuinely have a passion for student organizations and what they can do for students' professional development, and that was really instrumental in my college career as being involved with different student groups. Pairing that with a liberal arts education really helped me, when I got out into the work force, to be able to do just about anything, and that's been really valuable: to not be pigeon-holed into doing just one thing," says Smith.

Raised in a military home, Smith was originally from Oakland, California, but has lived all over the country. She attended Fort Louis College in



Owens and Smith hang out in Paul Meek Library.  
| Pacer Photo/ Chance Farmer

Durango, Colorado, where she received her bachelor's degree and certification in non-profit management. Little did she know that she would also meet her future husband there.

"I actually moved away after I graduated and went to Los Angeles, but found myself coming back. I came back to Durango the year that he moved there and got a teaching position at my alma mater," says Smith.

"Her [former] teacher was one of my new friends, and he made it a point to introduce us," says Owens. "The rest is kind of history."

Owens and Smith were married in the spring of 2012. When asked about what their favorite part of each other is, Smith replied, "My favorite part about him is really that, if I am going to be married to somebody, it's really important to me that you find somebody

that's open and is really able to look at a situation and consider 'Is there a different way of looking at this?' I feel like that was something I was really looking for in somebody. There's a lot of people that think they're right about everything all the time, and they're not going to change. I don't personally agree with that for myself, and I definitely don't agree with that for someone who sees no other interpretation than what they have decided is the right interpretation.

So that's one of my favorite things about this guy. He's a life-long learner and is open to considering someone else's point of view."

"Interestingly enough, I think it goes almost hand-in-hand with what she said in that, to be very simple, she calls me on my bull," says Owens. "I think so often

"

Her [former] teacher was one of my new friends, and he made it a point to introduce us. The rest is kind of history.

"

that people's understanding of what a friendship or what a relationship, or anything of that type, is that you surround yourself with people that sort of think the way you do. There have been many, many occasions that Katie has been anything but a yes-man for me, and I value her honesty and her ability to say 'I don't agree with this.' I think that challenge of if the person that you're with doesn't necessarily agree with you, then you're kind of forced to see things in a different way. At the end of the day, when you look at things in a different way, you grow as a human being, and I think that her ability to be sometimes outright challenging helps me grow. And I value that a lot."

Before coming to UTM, Owens taught at Fort Louis College for three years. "Before that, I was a student. I basically went straight through all my degrees from the start. I had one year off between getting my doctorate and teaching."

Smith owned her own music contracting business, freelancing in various ways for different orchestras. "I was everything from a personal manager or orchestral librarian to an event coordinator, on the pop side of things, for a songwriters conference," she says. To this day, Smith still serves as events coordinator for the Durango Songwriters Expo.

"One of the things that I believe the older I get is truly that like attracts like," Owens says about his decision to come to UTM. "When I talked to my friend at Fort Louis about taking the interview at UTM, he looked at me and said, 'Oh, that's Julie Hill's school, so that's a really good school.' I had no idea who Julie Hill was at the time, but when I arrived in Martin, I met, not only in Julie, but with everyone in the music department, a highly energetic team that aspired to a culture of excellence."

"I think, for me, I just followed the man. He was

the one that got the job here, and I got married and decided he was worth sticking with," Smith said jokingly about coming to Martin. "With UT Martin specifically, I like the college atmosphere and had been looking for jobs. The coordinator's job fell in my lap. It was literally a case of being in the right place at the right time. When I found out about the position, I was like, 'Yes! This is me!'"

When asked about what his favorite part of UTM is, Owens said, "I think that, every day, I get to work alongside people who are chasing excellence, how we can teach better, how we can do what we want to do as musicians and as people in better ways and students who buy into that. I have found myself, at UTM, surrounded with faculty and students who ultimately aspire to the same things I do, and I'm incredibly blessed to also be able to interact with administrators who value the same thing. The support that we get from Dr. Lynn Alexander and Dr. Smith has been incredibly encouraging to what we're up to."

When asked about the future, Smith said, "I feel like my work is done. When I came into the position, it was in serious disrepair, having been vacant for a whole year. Since then, I've made some serious changes. That's really what I like to do though: I like fixing things. I think in the future, I'll be working a lot with non-profits, because that's something I'm really interested in." Smith will be stepping down as coordinator of Student Organizations at the end of the fall semester to pursue her own interests.

"I want every musician in the state of Tennessee to think UTM when they think of schools for music. I want every musician regionally and nationally to think UTM when they think schools for music," Owens said. "I also want students to be assured that they are truly ready for the workforce when they leave this university."

## Light Up Martin

5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15  
Festival Park in downtown Martin

### Featuring:

- Christmas tree lighting • Holiday fireworks
- Carriage rides • Free hot chocolate • Santa and Mrs. Claus • Performances by UTM Choral Group, UTM Trombone Ensemble, and SMACK – Central Baptist Church Children's Choir

# Features

## Student's sister tells story of Paris

*Editor's Note: Kelsey LaFreniere, the sister of UTM student Sydney LaFreniere, is completing a study-abroad program in Paris. The following account is her story of the night of the Paris attacks, as told to her sister Sydney, a senior Communications major and WUTM staff member.*

My name is Kelsey LaFreniere and I was attending church on the evening of Nov. 13.

Toward the end of the service, our pastor interrupted to announce, very gravely, that there had been a terrorist attack at a bar a couple blocks away. At that time, they already knew that seven people were dead. Gasps erupted around the room, and people exchanged worried glances. I was in disbelief that a "terrorist attack" really happened. Maybe my pastor was misinformed. Maybe I had misheard him. Did I miss something? I gathered my things to get back home as quickly as possible, anyway. A lot of the congregation stayed put to pray.

Although no one had panicked, I knew I needed to be extremely careful; something was wrong. I did the only thing I could think to do: I waited to walk out to the métro station with a group of people. I messaged my mom in the United States to tell her what I knew (which was not much) and that I was going immediately home. I called my host parents so that they would know where I was in case anything happened. I booked it to the métro station, and felt unusually aware of the people around me.

Interestingly, people didn't seem to be any more wary than normal. Parisians still talked; they still laughed. They still milled around on the sidewalks in the 11th district where I was—where a kamikaze had exploded just half a mile away 30 minutes before.

I made it home safely and quickly, which is a small miracle, if not simply for the fact that the métros were soon interrupted all over the city shortly thereafter. I didn't take off my coat or my shoes. I immediately planted myself on the couch with my host family, and we watched the news break loose with constant headlines about unimaginable things.

The reported death count climbed every couple minutes. Eventually I lost track of the TV because I was texting every Parisian friend I could think of. All of them were okay, and every response was a miracle.



Kelsey LaFreniere, sister of UTM student Sydney LaFreniere, enjoys the sights of Paris in these photos provided by her sister. Through Sydney, Kelsey relates what it was like to be in Paris the night of the terrorist attacks on Nov. 13.

as there are people—that they didn't even know about it until the next day.

Paris was hurting, absolutely. I didn't go out of the apartment the next day except for a trip down the street to purchase a few groceries. My friends later told me about their experiences, and they said the streets were lifeless and empty that weekend. Police activity continued, the media ran nonstop and the people ached.

I did miss a couple days of school. One day I was too overwhelmed to go. The next day my class was cancelled because the police were raiding an apartment near campus in search of one of the terrorists. After that, classes resumed, work resumed and my routine came back.

I see two streams of stories on Facebook and the news: the first is an endless parade of articles, clips and bulletins about the facts, the danger, the fear, the loss. As a student in Paris I am connected to those things, and I think America feels the need to be connected with them. America as a country feels bad when things happen, and it wants to help.

The second stream is a smattering of bittersweet clips of people placing flowers at the Place de la République and at the bars where people were killed and other meaningful places. I see videos of the French proclaiming that they are not

afraid and that their country will stand. It's like a section of the internet committed to fighting the horror.

Both of those two things are accurate and valid. There is a third reality that I still wish people knew about, though, and I wish every concerned foreigner in the world could have visited Paris last week to experience it themselves: Aside from the bad and the attempts at seeing the good, there is goodness that will not change no matter what. The blue sky knows nothing of bombs and terrorists.

I know that it's hard to know how to react when you're removed from events that are happening, but I hate getting on Facebook, now. Initially it was great to see the reactions and know that people were concerned about Paris. Since then it has become a war of poorly founded articles and opinions stated as facts. These levels of events, people's reactions, people's reactions to those reactions, and reactions to those have become a fight of what is right and what we should be paying attention to.

In the midst of the argument the importance is lost. When people start saying, "This is what we should pay attention to instead of something else," no matter how well-meaning it is, it becomes just noise. I'm thinking specifically about the argument that said: "Pray for Paris," which changed to "What

about Beirut?" which became "Caring more about Paris is a question of entitlement," and that changed to "All the media is broken because no one cares about the rest of the world" and ended with "And what about this cause for these people?"

I appreciate people showing their concern and being serious about praying for any part of the world, but Paris does not benefit from your shared article on Facebook about the horror in Paris. Paris does not benefit from the rest of the world being scared. I think it says something when Parisians are less fearful than the rest of the world, and they're the ones here.

It's very frustrating to me to see the rest of the world being bogged down by tragedy. I see America still freaking out—not knowing how to deal with what it doesn't understand, understandably so. "There is too much in the world to care about it all!" To that I would say, "Don't let it hold you up." America is not getting the truth. Paris is not under attack right now. Paris was under attack for a few days.

Those who attacked were strategic and they were specific. This is extremism acting out its politics, not outright war. The world should not be freaking out, pointing fingers and letting fear control what they're doing. It's going to be tricky to get the truth to America. I want to say, "Do your research, get the facts right," but against the slew of emotional media coverage, it's going to be hard to find the truth. The media seems to perpetuate this ignorance and fear.

No, attacks in Paris are not ok. The rest of the world is not ok, either, but Paris is going to be okay. America should reach out and help if it feels the need to, but the world keeps moving. It's not that Paris has forgotten, because Paris will never forget. No one is ever going to forget Nov. 13. Yet Paris is moving; France is moving—we have to. Métro lines are working again, schools are open and crêpes are being sold on the street.

Goodness and courage are moving. The events of the 13th didn't stop them. If I could recommend one thing on the subject of the terrorist attacks in Paris, I would say this: let the world keep moving, and let yourself keep moving. Do not stop on social media and let them tell you what is good or horrible in the world. Reach out to help Paris somehow if you feel moved, but let Paris move, let the other bombed cities move, let yourself move.

# Arts & Entertainment

## 'Tis the season for new movies

**Chelsea Monroe**

Staff Writer

After the presents are opened and the "Christmas Beast" has been devoured, what better way to enjoy the holiday season than by piling into your local theater to watch one of the many movies being released on Christmas Day? This year, six movies will be released and there is something for just about everyone.

Joy is the wild story of a family across four generations all held together by one girl

who truly embraces being the matriarch of a family enterprise. This is a true story of love, treachery, and the intense emotional family drama brought to you by Robert De Niro, Virginia Madsen, Bradley Cooper and Isabella Rossellini.

Will Ferrell and Mark Wahlberg join forces to bring you Daddy's Home, a story of a mild-mannered step-father (Ferrell) striving to become the best step-dad he can be. Of course the real father (Whalberg) will make Ferrell compete in a hilarious combination of blood sweat

and tears for the title of World's Greatest Father.

Point Break is a remake of an old classic featuring Luke Bracey playing a young FBI agent, Johnny Utah, who infiltrates a team of thrill-seeking athletes. These athletes are the suspects to many unusual crimes in the area and Utah wants to show the world that they are the real culprits.

Concussion is an incredible sports film telling the true story of the brilliant forensic neuropathologist who made the first discovery of CTE, a football related trauma, in

one of the pro players. Will Smith, Luke Wilson, Eddie Marsan, and Alec Baldwin all star in this excellent movie.

For those of you who have been craving Quinton Tarantino this holiday season, The Hateful Eight will also be arriving on Christmas day. This is a thrilling story of bounty hunters coming together fighting for justice just a few short years after the civil war. Scandal, adventure, and a twisting plot will keep you hooked on Michael Madsen, Samuel L. Jackson, Zoe Bell

and Tim Roth as they take you on this western journey.

The Revenant is Leonardo DiCaprio's holiday film as he is joined with Tom Hardy, Will Poulter, and Lukas Haas on an expedition of the uncharted American wilderness. DiCaprio plays a legendary explorer who is violently attacked and left for dead by his team. In a vicious winter and in searing pain he fights for life and struggles through the pain of betrayal and fear of never returning to his family.

## Delta Sigma Theta encourages campus to be stress free

**Bariana Woods**

Arts & Entertainment Editor

With finals being next week, the Eta Xi chapter of Delta Sigma Theta hosted a stress free week for the campus to be able to take a minute to relax.

Monday, the ladies were in the Boiling University Center passing out free stress balls and healthy snacks.

"I don't know why but this semester has been so stressful for many of my friends and peers. Our chapter felt that some leisure time was definitely needed. Events are free, we will have a few snacks, and just allow the campus

to relieve some tension", says senior Social Work major and financial secretary for the Eta Xi chapter Kendall Ford.

On Tuesday, they were back in the University Center to host a game night in room 230. They had games such as Twister, Connect Four, Taboo, Monopoly and more.

"I really enjoyed relieving some stress last night playing Taboo and Uno with friends. With it being so close to finals, I think this was a great idea", says senior Political Science major, Amber Sherman.

To wrap up the organization's Stress free semi-week, they held a movie night in Gooch auditorium. The "Netflix &

Chill" consisted of popcorn and popular movie, Dear White People.

"We feel it is very important to give back to the campus in any and every way that we can. We didn't want to, you know, over do it and do a full week of events, but a few hours in the beginning of the week we felt was perfect for a little 'break,'" says senior Biology major and President of the Eta Xi chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Chasity Watson.

Eta Xi is the first black greek organization at UTM and continues to demonstrate sisterhood, scholarship and service.



Members of Delta Sigma Theta shows their 'Stress free' face. | Pacer Photo/ Amber Sherman



Photo Credit/  
glammdairy.  
wordpress.com

## Kylie Jenner lip gloss is 'Poppin'

**Bariana Woods**

Arts and Entertainment Editor

Kylie Jenner, youngest sibling of the Kardashian/Jenner klan, has released her new lip make-up line, Kylie Lip Kit by Kylie Jenner.

The launch of the lip kit went tremendously well for the 18 year-old entrepreneur. The lip kits came in three shades: Dolce K, True Brown, and Candy K.

The Huffington Post reports, every shade of the kits were sold out within a minute or less after the link being open to public around 9 a.m. Monday and are still

sold out.

Fans of Kylie were upset about the kits selling out so fast, some even say they had it in the checkout cart and by the time they entered their credit card number they were gone.

The LipkitbyKylie website described the kit as, "All handpicked by Kylie Jenner, the Kylie Lip Kit is your secret to the perfect 'Kylie Lip.' Each lip kit is applied with one swipe color that glides across lips and dries down to a powdery-soft, matte finish. Homogenous color in natural nudes and deep browns give unparalleled

comfort and wear. The oil free formula has 25 percent pigment which provides instant color. The perfect blend of waxes, silicone and polymers give you smooth and easy glide color, with longwearing properties."

For those who just can't wait, you can find these kits on Ebay for five times its original price; some bids have gotten all the way up to \$300, when the original price is only \$29.

However, Jenner assures fans they will have more in stock soon and to keep checking the website for availability.

## Top five Christmas songs guaranteed to jingle your bells

**Laura Crossett**

Assistant News Editor

When in search for the most popular Christmas song, the best place would be to go to the grand judge and jury of popular modern music, Billboard, for answers.

Billboard reports the fifth most popular Christmas song by plays isn't exactly modern, but it makes up for its age in its popularity. According to the Guinness Book of World Records, Bing Crosby released the best-selling single of all time when his baritone pipes first recorded "White Christmas." The global sales of this hit topped 100 million worldwide.

No. 4 on Billboard's list is Bobby Helms' "Jingle Bell Rock," a song which was brought back into the limelight for a younger generation during its appearance in the 2004 cult film Mean Girls.

The holidays would not be the same without No. 3 on Billboard's lineup, "The

Christmas Song (Merry Christmas to You)," by the legendary Nat King Cole. Another melodious baritone, Nat King Cole started his first band as a teenager, and dedicated his life to his jazz.

Our No. 2 artist on the Billboard list actually recorded her hit in her teenage years. Brenda Lee first sang "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" at the fresh age of 13. Her song was remade for the 1990 film Home Alone, which it is now commonly associated with.

At No. 1 on the Billboard Top Holiday 100 list sits the Christmas queen herself. You guessed it, Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas is You" is the top Holiday Hit. With her exceptional vocal range, Mariah Carey is predicted to stay right on pitch with our good holiday feelings for seasons to come.

So get your music library filled with classic Christmas music tunes to get you in the holiday spirit.

# Sports

## Skyhawks pick up big win over Alabama 83-65

**Jared Peckenpaugh**

Sports Editor

The UTM women's basketball team picked up a huge home win over Southeastern conference foe and previously unbeaten Alabama.

Alabama only led once in the game, early in the first quarter 1-0, however, UTM retook the lead and never let it go, leading for just over 39 minutes.

The Skyhawks opened the first quarter by hitting seven 3-pointers, giving UTM a 27-7 lead with 2:08 remaining in the first quarter. Alabama would respond with a 9-0 run to cut the lead down to 11 at the end of the first quarter.

Alabama tried to close the gap in the second quarter, but struggled offensively only shooting 4-13 in the second quarter. UTM also struggled, but managed to hang on to a 10 point lead heading into the locker room at halftime.

In the second half, UTM started to slowly extend their lead over the Crimson Tide. At the end of the third quarter, UTM had a 24 point lead and, despite a slight comeback by Alabama, rode that lead to the final buzzer, clinching a 83-65 win over the Tide.

UTM's five starters scored a combined 81 of their total 83 points. Daija Ruffin and Haley Howard were the leading scorers for the Skyhawks, both tallying 21 points. Chelsea Roberts was the only Skyhawk to finished with a double-double, 15 points and 12 rebounds. Jessy Ward was the second leading scorer with 16 points and four 3-pointers.

Alabama was led by Hannah Cook, who finished with 21 points and eight rebounds.

Overall, UTM had one of their best shooting efforts of the season, shooting 50 percent from the field (28-56), 46 percent from 3-point range (16-35), and 79 percent from the free throw

line (11-14). Alabama shot 47 percent (27-58), 39 percent from 3-point range (7-18) and 4-8 from the free throw line.

After the game, UTM head coach Kevin McMillan discussed what was the difference in this game and what led to their large win.

"If we can just hold our own on the glass and then not turn the ball over, we'll give ourselves a chance," McMillan said. "That surprised me a little bit that we did both those things."

"We're very balanced, so you can't load up on one player. When you do that, if you play together, you kind of find the people that are open and they'll kind of figure out themselves who needs to be scoring."

The Skyhawks will take the win into their next matchup against Samford on Saturday, Dec. 5. Tipoff between UTM and the Bulldogs is scheduled for 2 p.m.

## Skyhawk men's basketball team battles but falls 74-70 at UMKC

**Sports Information**

Twymond Howard and Richard Lee each eclipsed the 20-point mark tonight for the University of Tennessee at Martin men's basketball team but UMKC protected its home floor with a 74-70 win at Municipal Auditorium.

The Skyhawks (2-6) held a 40-37 halftime lead before UMKC took a 10-point advantage with a little over seven minutes to play in the game. UT Martin then buckled down defensively, holding the Kangaroos without a field goal for over five minutes while cutting its deficit to one point with 90 seconds remaining. However, UMKC was able to hang on for the win after two Skyhawk turnovers down the stretch.

Twymond Howard scored 22 points (one shy of his career-high) while grabbing a game-high seven rebounds for UT Martin. He was joined in double-figures by Richard Lee, who went off for a career-high 21 points on 8-of-11 shooting, including four 3-pointers. Howard and Lee become the first pair of Skyhawk teammates to each score 20 or more points in a single game since Alex Anderson (30) and Deville Smith (21) accomplished the feat at Northwestern State on March 19, 2015.

UMKC (5-2) was led by 24 points out of Martez Harrison while LaVell Boyd (16), Darnell Tillman (11) and Broderick Newbill (10) also reached

double-figures in the scoring column for the Kangaroos.

Lee converted an old-fashioned three-point play on UT Martin's first possession of the game. Howard followed with back-to-back jumpers to keep the Skyhawks on top. Back-to-back trifectas by Lee and Alex Anderson padded UT Martin's advantage out to five points (13-8) with just under 14 minutes to go in the first half.

UMKC answered with six consecutive points to take a brief lead but four straight free throws by Howard ignited a 10-2 Skyhawk run - capped off with a pair of treys by Lee and Anderson. The surge lasted a total of two minutes and resulted in a 30-23 UT Martin lead at the 7:06 mark of the first half.

However, the Kangaroos responded with a run of their own - outscoring the Skyhawks by an 11-2 margin over a span of 2:51 to go ahead by a 34-32 margin. Fatodd Lewis then gave UT Martin a lift with five straight points, followed by another Lee three-pointer to slingshot the Skyhawks into a 40-34 lead before UMKC hit a three-pointer to cut UT Martin's halftime lead to 40-37.

Lee was a perfect 5-for-5 from the field - including a 4-of-4 effort from three-point land - for a game-high 15 points at the break. Howard also had 10 points for UT Martin, who shot 53.8 percent (7-for-13) from three-point range in the first 20 minutes. The Kangaroos were

led by Harrison's 10 points in the first half.

The start of the second half mirrored the beginning of the game as Lee accounted for the Skyhawks' first bucket. UMKC followed with 13 of the next 17 points, taking a 50-46 lead in the process. A fast break layup by Lee and a pair of Howard free throws evened the score at 52-all at the 12:32 mark.

Over the next 5:17, the Kangaroos would unreel an 11-1 run to go on top by a 63-53 margin. UT Martin got within six points on two different occasions but Harrison then scored five straight points for UMKC - including a 35-foot three-pointer off a loose ball as the shot clock expired.

Howard then poured in six straight points for UT Martin before Jacolby Mobley knocked down a three-pointer from the left wing with 1:30 to go, slicing the Skyhawk deficit to 71-70. The UT Martin defense got another stop, setting up a chance to go ahead with 57 seconds remaining. However, a pair of Skyhawk turnovers sandwiched around a Harrison stepback jumper plus a Kyle Steward free throw iced the game for UMKC.

UT Martin continues its near-three week road trip next week when it visits the Lone Star State for a pair of matchups. The Skyhawks will play at Texas Tech on Dec. 9 at 8 p.m. before heading to Texas-Rio Grande Valley on Dec. 11 at 7 p.m.

## Around the NEST

### Men's Basketball

8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9 – at Texas Tech United Supermarkets Arena, Lubbock, Texas

7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11 – at Texas-Rio Grande Valley UTRGV Fieldhouse, Rio Grande Valley, Texas

7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16 – at Saint Louis Chaifetz Arena, St. Louis, Missouri

6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18 – Arkansas State Elam Center, Martin, Tennessee

6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 21 – Alcorn State Elam Center, Martin, Tennessee

11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29 – at Florida Atlantic FAU Arena, Boca Raton, Florida

6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2 – Boyce College Elam Center, Martin, Tennessee

7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7 – at Eastern Kentucky Alumni Coliseum, Richmond, Kentucky

5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 9 – at Morehead State Ellis Johnson Arena, Morehead, Kentucky

6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13 – Tennessee Tech Elam Center, Martin, Tennessee

### Women's Basketball

2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5 – Samford Elam Center, Martin, Tennessee

Noon Saturday, Dec. 12 – at Evansville Ford Center, Evansville, Indiana

6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15 – Miami (Ohio) Elam Center, Martin, Tennessee

6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18 – at Cincinnati Fifth Third Arena, Cincinnati, Ohio

Noon Monday, Dec. 21 – at Vanderbilt Memorial Gym, Nashville, Tennessee

6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 28 – at Louisville KFC Yum! Center, Louisville, Kentucky

4:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7 – at Eastern Kentucky Alumni Coliseum, Richmond, Kentucky

2:45 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 9 – at Morehead State Ellis Johnson Arena, Morehead, Kentucky

11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13 – Tennessee Tech Elam Center, Martin, Tennessee

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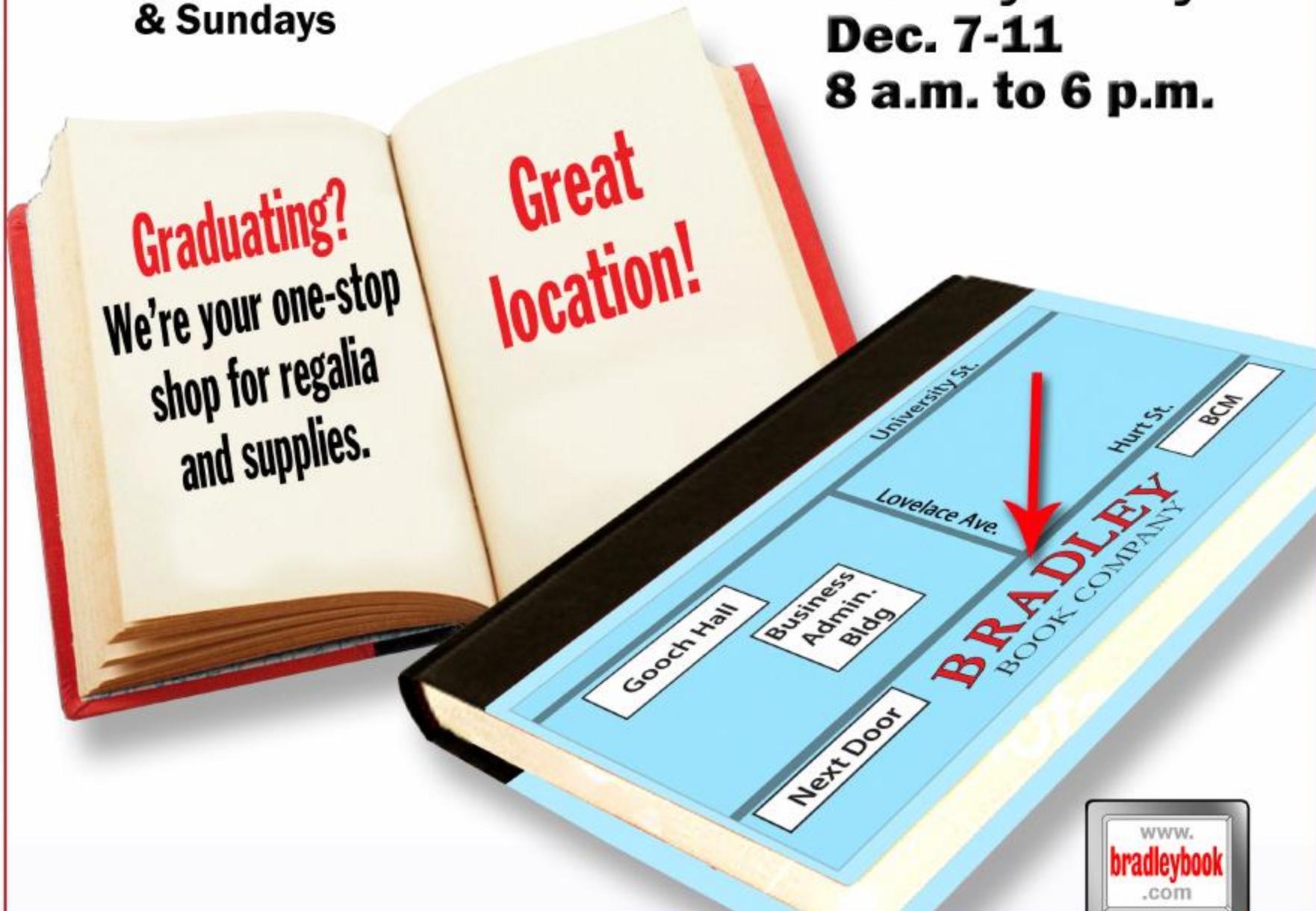
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